

***PLACING OF SYMBOLS OF FAITH***

***PENITENTIAL RITE***

***OPENING PRAYER***

***Father Emmanuel:*** : O God, to whom mercy and forgiveness belong, hear our prayers on behalf of your servant Michael whom you have called out of this world. Command that he be carried safely home to heaven and come to enjoy your eternal reward.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

***ALL:*** Amen.

***A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes 3:1-2, 4-7, 11-12***

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven:

A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot.

A time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,

A time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain.

A time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away.

A time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak.

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live.

The Word of the Lord

***ALL:*** Thanks be to God.

***RESPONSORIAL PSALM***

***PSALM 23***

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again,  
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness,  
E'en for His own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
Yet will I fear no ill;  
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod  
And staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished  
In presence of my foes;  
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,  
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me,  
And in God's house forevermore  
My dwelling-place shall be.

***A BRIEF REFLECTION BY THE PRIEST***

## ***BIDDING PRAYERS***

That the Lord may show mercy to the soul of Michael and that He may receive him into His presence where there is no more weeping, suffering and pain.

Lord in your mercy:

Response: Hear our prayer.

That those who cared for Michael and all who have offered sympathy be blessed for their efforts and their service to others.

Lord in your mercy:

Response: Hear our prayer.

That all of us here today may renew our appreciation for the gift of life both temporal and eternal and may learn to accept God's will for us even when it is difficult.

Lord in your mercy:

Response: Hear our prayer.

That the Holy Spirit, the comforter may console all of us who mourn the passing of Michael.

Lord in your mercy:

Response: Hear our prayer.

That the Lord may receive all our departed ones into a place of life, light and bliss.

Lord in your mercy:

Response: Hear our prayer.

PRIEST: Let us ask the Blessed Mother of Jesus to present our prayers before her Son as we pray:

ALL: Hail Mary, Full of Grace, The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

## ***PRAYER OF FINAL COMMENDATION***

***PRIEST:*** Trusting in God, we have prayed together for Michael and now we come to the last farewell. There is sadness in parting, but we take comfort in the hope that one day we shall see him again and enjoy his friendship. Although this congregation will disperse in sorrow, the mercy of God will gather us together again in the joy of His kingdom. Therefore, let us console one another in the faith of Jesus Christ.

***PRIEST:*** Saints of God, come to his aid!  
Come to meet him, angels of the Lord!

***ALL:*** Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

***PRIEST:*** May Christ, who called you, take you to Himself; may angels lead you to Abraham's side.

***ALL:*** Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

***PRIEST:*** Give him eternal rest, O Lord,  
and may Your light shine upon him forever.

***ALL:*** Receive his soul and present him to God the Most High.

## ***EULOGY***

### ***FINAL HYMN (I Watch The Sunrise)***

I watch the sunrise lighting the sky,  
Casting its shadows near.  
And on this morning bright though it be,  
I feel those shadows near me.

Chorus: